



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## San Diego Public Library

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Soprano MaryLou Rector to Perform Vocal Recital at Central Library**

*Program Will Include American Premiere by La Jolla Composer Robert Fürstenthal*

**SAN DIEGO** – The first concert in the City of San Diego Public Library fall concert series will be held on Sunday August 17, 2008 at 2:30 p.m. The program will feature a vocal recital by soprano MaryLou Rector accompanied by pianist Ilana Mysior. The performance will be held in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E Street in downtown San Diego.

The program will feature Robert Schumann's, *Frauenliebe und –leben* (A Woman's Love and Life), a famous song-cycle from 1840, set to the poetry of Adalbert von Chamisso. This performance will include the American premiere of La Jolla composer Robert Fürstenthal's setting of *Traum der eignen Tage*, which is the one poem in the Chamisso cycle that was never set by Schumann. Four other songs by Fürstenthal will be on the program: *Auf einer goldnen Flöte*, *Liebeslied*, *Das Los des Menschen*, and *Haussegen*. Compositions by the influential French composer Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924) will include *Mandoline*, *Ici-bas*, *Après un rêve*, *Claire de lune*, and *Nell*. The concert will end with a song cycle by American composer Samuel Barber (1910-1981) titled *Despite and Still*, which is set to poetry by Robert Graves, James Joyce, and Theodore Roethke. Barber is best known as the composer of *Adagio for Strings*.

MaryLou Rector completed her college work and two years of musical study in Germany prior to her many years of singing experience in the Los Angeles area. Opera performances include *La Boheme*, *Bartered Bride*, *Candide*, *Der Fledermaus*, *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, and *The Sorcerer* with the Richard Sheldon G & S Light Opera Co., Euterpe Opera Club, Los Angeles Civic Opera, Los Angeles Music Center and the Klagenfurt Opernhaus in Austria. She was also a member of the American Guild of Musical Artists and a featured soloist with the Burbank Symphony, Pasadena United Methodist Church and the Wilshire Boulevard Temple.

Some of her performances include Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, Verdi's *Requiem*, Handel's *Messiah*,

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and Jewish High Holy Days. She also taught for 28 years in the Los Angeles Unified School District as a credentialed Secondary Choral and Instrumental music teacher. She has been a featured soloist with the San Diego Festival Chorus and Orchestra in Vivaldi's *Gloria* and Schubert's Mass in G.

Ilana Mysior was born in Israel and returned there to create a department of Accompanying at the Tel Aviv Academy of Music. For twenty-five years she was Professor of Music at the University of San Diego, where she created an Opera Workshop. As a person with Marfan Syndrome, she devotes much of her time giving recitals for the National Marfan Foundation, including a 1994 performance in London at St. Johns Smith Square, traveling on the Concorde so as to preserve strength. At present, she teaches piano and coaches singers from her home in San Diego.

The concert is free and open to the public. **Free parking is available at the lot adjacent to the Library on Broadway and 8th, courtesy of Five Star Parking.** In addition, parking meters are not enforced on Sundays, and other pay parking lots are available in the vicinity of the library.

For further information, please call the Library's Art and Music Department at 236-5810, or visit the Library web site at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org).

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